

*AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION*

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 12-14, with the following paragraph:

FIGURES 7A-7H show the alignment of monocot *Rpl3* cDNA clones. The consensus sequences are aligned beginning at the putative ATG translation initiation codon, with the exception of the oat sequence which is a partial sequence. The sequences are as follows: maize1 = SEQ ID NO:7; maize2 = SEQ ID NO:8; sorghum1 = SEQ ID NO:11; sorghum2 = SEQ ID NO:12; wheat = SEQ ID NO:13; barley = SEQ ID NO:10; oat = SEQ ID NO:9; rice = SEQ ID NO:19; and Consensus = SEQ ID NO:20.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 15-17, with the following paragraph:

FIGURES 8A-8B show the alignment of predicted monocot RPL3 proteins. Sites at which amino acid differences occur among RPL3 proteins of the six species are noted above the sequence with an asterisk. The sequences are as follows: maize = SEQ ID NO:14; sorghum = SEQ ID NO:15; wheat = SEQ ID NO:16; barley = SEQ ID NO:17; oat = SEQ ID NO:18; and rice = SEQ ID NO:3.